

Attorney's Docket No. 041176/260794

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor:	Christoffel et al.	Confirmation No.:	9747
Appl. No.:	10/646,566	Group Art Unit:	3636
Filed:	August 22, 2003	Examiner:	R. B. White
For:	FITTING FOR A VEHICLE SEAT		

June 22, 2004

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)**

Sir:

Attached is a list of documents on form PTO-1449. In accordance with the Office waiver published July 11, 2003, copies of the cited U.S. patents are not enclosed. Applicant does enclose copies of any cited foreign patent documents and non-patent literature in accordance with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2). A copy of U.S. Patent Application 10/646,567 is also enclosed.

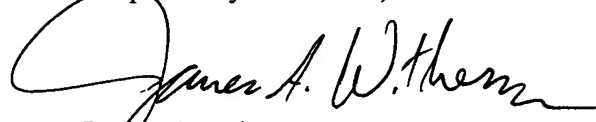
DE 695 08 281T (a copy of which is not enclosed), WO 96/20848 and US 5,938,286 are members of the same patent family. DE 199 49 759 C1 discloses a seat with a fitting, and the fitting having a pawl with only one row of teeth. DE 198 50 751 C1 discloses a seat, with the seat including a fitting having a pawl (18) with two mouths opened in the same direction (counterclockwise in Fig. 4), secured by a spring (14a), and cooperating with two different bolts (15, 16) to lock the two positions of the backrest. DE 100 34 430 A1 discloses a seat with a fitting, and the fitting having a pawl with only one row of teeth. EP 1 068 985 A1 discloses a locking device for connecting the seat to the vehicle floor, and the pawl of the device only has one mouth. EP 1 068 985 A1 and US 6,629,710 are members of the same patent family.

It is requested that the Examiner consider these documents and officially make them of record in accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and Section 609 of the MPEP. By submitting the listed documents, Applicant in no way makes any admission as to the prior art status of the listed documents, but is instead submitting the listed documents for the sake of full disclosure.

In re: Christoffel et al.
Appl. No.: 10/646,566
Filed: August 22, 2003
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This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c), before final Office Action or Allowance, whichever is earlier. In accordance with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c), the following statement as specified in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) is made: Except for U.S. Patent Application No. 10/646,567, each item of information contained in this statement was either: (1) first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three (3) months prior to the filing of this statement, or (2) was not cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing this document after making reasonable inquiry, was not known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three (3) months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. U.S. Patent Application No. 10/646,567 is being cited because it was not initialed on the PTO Form 1449 that was returned to Applicants' representative with the first Office Action, even though it was properly cited in the Information Disclosure Statement filed November 24, 2003.

Respectfully submitted,



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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on June 22, 2004


Grace R. Rippy

Substitute for form 1449/PTO (Revised 04/2003) INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary)				Complete if Known		
				Application Number	10/646,566	
				Filing Date	August 22, 2003	
				First Named Inventor	Christoffel et al.	
				Group Art Unit	3636	
Examiner Name	R. B. White					
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	041176/260794	
U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Document Number Number - Kind Code (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages of Relevant Figures Appear	
	1	US-5,938,286	08/17/1999	Jones et al.		
	2	US-6,629,710	10/07/2003	Shafry et al.		
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Foreign Patent Document Country Code - Number Kind Code (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	English Language Translation Attached
	3	DE 199 49 759 C1	10-26-2000	Bertrand Faure Sitztechnik GmbH & Co. KG		*
	4	DE 198 50 751 C1	05-10-2000	ISE Innomotive Systems Europe GmbH		*
	5	DE 100 34 430 A1	01-31-2002	Faurecia Autositze GmbH & Co. KG		*
	6	EP 1 068 985 A1	01-17-2001	Johnson Controls GmbH		
	7	WO 96/20848	07-11-1996	Tricom Automotive Limited		
		*Abstract Only				
OTHER DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.				English Language Translation Attached
	8	U.S. Patent Application No. 10/646,567, filed August 22, 2003; In re: Petry, entitled <i>Adjuster for a Vehicle Seat</i>				

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. #4652505v1